

**From:** Wagner Ralph  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/23/02 1:54pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

Dear Sir or Madam,

I write to you today to express that I am against the current Microsoft Settlement. It seems to me that this 'settlement' is not in the best interests of the US Consumer, but rather is in the best interests of Microsoft - the convicted monopolist. Any attempts to justify this settlement in the interests of the economy are also a Red Herring. Microsoft has already affected the economy with it's monopoly by destroying innovative companies and promoting self-serving proprietary standards. Given this settlement, Microsoft would pursue it's utopia of a monthly Microsoft bill - akin to your monthly telephone or electric bill.

There are several problems with the settlement as it currently exists, some of the points that I find particularly troublesome are:

1. The fact that no remedy is offered for the illegally obtained majority share in the internet browser market. They should not be permitted to keep the gains they have made by illegally exploiting their monopoly.
2. Any settlement that \*had\* sufficient remedies should be longer than 5-7 years, especially in the case of a repeat-offender such as Microsoft. The minimum term should be at least 10 years, with a maximum of 20. Microsoft has snickered at the US DOJ before as it walked away after a 'wrist-slap' remedy (1995). Don't let it do so again.
3. The continued ability of Microsoft to 'bundle' whatever it wants with the 'operating system'. This is exactly how Microsoft gained market share in the browser market. This practice must be stopped, and Microsoft will not do so on it's own.

In closing, I would refer you to a (very short) article that addresses (most) of these concerns quite well -

[http://linuxtoday.com/news\\_story.php3?ltsn=2002-01-02-002-20-OP-MS](http://linuxtoday.com/news_story.php3?ltsn=2002-01-02-002-20-OP-MS)

Thank you for your time.

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Ralph Wagner  
8251 Greensboro Drive #413  
McLean, Va 22102

703.902.5335 (O)  
703.902.3457 (F)

